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S E C R E T--WNINTEL- [redacted] 3.5(c)

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.
REPORT CLASS S E C R E T--WNINTEL- [redacted] 3.5(c)
COUNTRY: ARGENTINA/UNITED KINGDOM/URUGUAY
SUBJECT: RESPONSIBILITY OF AN ARGENTINE PARAMILITARY ORGANIZATION FOR THE KIDNAPPING IN BUENOS AIRES OF BRITISH AND U.S. JOURNALISTS

[redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

1. [redacted]

[redacted] THE RECENT KIDNAPPINGS IN BUENOS AIRES OF THREE BRITISH JOURNALISTS AND ONE U.S. JOURNALIST 3.3(b)(1)
WERE COVERT OPERATIONS EXECUTED BY AN ARGENTINE PARAMILITARY GROUP UNDER THE COMMAND OF "ANIBAL". [redacted] THE FOUR JOURNALISTS HAD BEEN UNDER HEAVY SURVEILLANCE BY PERSONNEL FROM THE ARGENTINE ARMY 601ST INTELLIGENCE BATTALION BEFORE BEING SELECTED BY GORDON'S GROUP AS SPECIFIC TARGETS FOR KIDNAPPING. [redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

[redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

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2. IN DISCUSSING THE KIDNAPPINGS, QUINTANA'S PARAMILITARY GROUP HAD ALSO KIDNAPPED AN URUGUAYAN BUSINESSMAN WHO IS ENGAGED IN MARKETING CONTRABAND PRODUCTS IN URUGUAY. THE URUGUAYAN WAS KIDNAPPED IN BUENOS AIRES SEVERAL DAYS AFTER THE JOURNALISTS WERE RELEASED. QUINTANA'S MOTIVE FOR THIS ACTION WAS TO PERSONALLY ACQUIRE A RANSOM AND TO LEND CREDIBILITY TO PRESIDENT GALTIERI'S STATEMENT THAT ALTHOUGH FOREIGNERS WOULD RECEIVE PROTECTION FROM ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES THEY WERE PREY FOR COMMON THIEVES. IF THE RANSOM DEMAND WAS MADE AND NOT COMPLIED WITH BY THE URUGUAYAN'S FAMILY, THEN "QUINTANA'S ORGANIZATION WOULD HAVE TO SOLVE A POTENTIALLY EMBARRASSING PROBLEM."

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3.3(b)(1)

REPORT CLASS S E C R E T--WARNING NOTICE--INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED-

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